



## State of Utah

### Department of Natural Resources

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May 3, 2004

TO: File

FROM: Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist

SUBJECT: Site Inspection, U. S. Energy, Velvet Mine, M/037/040, San Juan County, Utah

Date of Inspection: March 19, 2004  
Time of Inspection: About 2:40 to 3:10 p.m.  
Conditions: Mostly clear, 60's  
Participants: Paul Baker, DOGM

#### **Purpose of Inspection:**

I had not seen this site since before it was seeded, and I wanted to see how much vegetation was growing.

#### **Observations:**

The site is shown in the attached photos. It's impossible to see much vegetation in these photos, but I saw a lot of seedlings scattered over the site. Success was spotty so far with some areas having good germination and others having less. I could not see a marked difference between areas receiving and not receiving topsoil. There were no signs of accelerated erosion or of sediment leaving the site.

On the terrace cutting diagonally across Photo 4, one can see dark spots. This is manure, and the picture shows what it looks like over most of the site.

#### **Conclusions and Recommendations:**

There are no recommendations at this time. We just need to be patient and wait for things to grow.

PBB:jb

cc: Fred Craft, U. S. Energy  
Ted McDougall, Monticello BLM

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## ATTACHMENT

### Photographs

M/037/040, Velvet Mine, U. S. Energy

Inspection Dated: March 19, 2004; Report Dated: May 3, 2004



**Photo 1.** Area on top of the waste pile where topsoil was spread. Seedlings were present but small and hard to see.



**Photo 2.**



**Photo 3.** The boundary between the areas receiving and not receiving topsoil.



**Photo 4.** Waste pile outslope that did not receive topsoil. Note the lack of erosion.